IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	§		
Anand Krishnamurthy et al.	§	Group Art Unit:	4114
	§		
Application No.: 10/723,186	§	Examiner:	Teresa S. Woods
	§		
Filed: November 26, 2003	§	Confirmation No.:	9020
	§		
For: AUTOMATED PATIENT SCHEDULING METHOD AND SYSTEM	§	Atty. Docket:	140348-1 SV/YOD/SIN GEMS:0260
	§		

Mail Stop Amendment
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January 22, 2009	/Patrick S. Yoder/
Date	Patrick S. Yoder

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 9, 2008

In response to the Office Action mailed on December 9, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as follows:

The present invention provides a workflow for patient scheduling in a Hospital Information System (HIS). While diagnosing a medical problem of a patient, a referring physician may refer a patient for certain exams. The referring physician places a request for ordering the exams with a scheduler that is sent to the scheduler in the form of a decision tree. The decision tree includes a first set of exams and additional exams to be performed on a patient. The scheduler orders the exams by scheduling the exams with an acquisition modality and informs the patient about the schedule of the exams. The exams are performed on the patient and medical information from the exams is stored in an archive. The information is also sent to an analyst for analysis. The analyst analyzes the medical images and orders additional exams mentioned in the decision tree based on the results of an exam. The analyst requests additional exams until an end of the decision tree is reached.